DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 446 947 SE 064 100

TITLE	Plant Biodiversity. Plant Life in Action[TM]. Schlessinger Science Library. [Videotape].
ISBN	ISBN-1-57225-319-3
PUB DATE	2000-00-00
NOTE	0p.; For other videotapes in this series, see SE 064 099-104. Videotape designed for grades 5-8.
AVAILABLE FROM	Schlessinger Media, Div. of Library Video Company, P.O. Box 580, Wynnewood, PA 19096 (6 volume set, $214.70; each 23-minute videotape, $39.95). Tel: 800-843-3620 (Toll Free); Web site: http://www.libraryvideo.com.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Classroom - Teacher (052) -- Non-Print Media (100)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	*Adjustment (to Environment); *Biodiversity; Hands on Science; Intermediate Grades; Junior High Schools; *Plants (Botany); Science Activities; Science Education; Science Experiments
IDENTIFIERS	*Seeds

ABSTRACT

What organisms have adapted to life in environments ranging from the ocean floor to desert sands, from frigid the tundra to the deepest, darkest jungle? None other than plants! From microscopic algae to the largest trees, millions of plant species have evolved in every habitat on the planet. In Plant Biodiversity, learn how plants developed in the oceans over 420 million years ago and slowly adapted to survive and reproduce on land. Explore the differences between nonvascular plants and their more modern vascular cousins. Find out how the development of seeds allowed plants to dominate the landscape, and discover some differences between cone-bearing gymnosperms and flowering angiosperms. Examine the structures different plants have developed to succeed in their environment, and explore the effects of climate on plant biodiversity in a fun, hands-on experiment. This program is based on the concepts outlined in the National Science Education Standards for Life Science: Structure & Function in Living Systems, Reproduction & Heredity, Regulation & Behavior, Populations & Ecosystems and Diversity & Adaptations of Organisms. This title includes a teacher's guide. (ASK)

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